

COMMEMORATING THE VISIT TO
CUBA OF THE FREEDOM SCHOONER
AMISTAD IN RECOGNITION
OF UN DAY OF REMEMBRANCE
FOR SLAVERY VICTIMS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with enormous pride that I wish to inform my colleagues that the Freedom Schooner Amistad, a national human rights icon moored in New Haven, CT, is making history this week. As part of the United Nations commemoration of March 25 as the global Day of Remembrance for the victims of the Atlantic slave trade, the Amistad arrived Monday in Matanzas, Cuba and today will sail for Havana.

The Amistad entered Cuban waters on March 22, 2010 for a 10-day, two city Cuba tour that will culminate its recent Caribbean Heritage Voyage. The ship first visited Matanzas, site of a new UNESCO-affiliated slavery museum. Today, the Amistad will sail into Havana Harbor to commemorate the historic "triangle of trade" connections between America, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean. Tomorrow, the vessel will host a three-hour simulcast about the shared slave trade heritage, connecting Cuban students to classrooms across the Atlantic Ocean and at the UN in New York. In addition to public tours of the boat and academic panels on its history, the Cuba visits will focus on the impact of the slave trade on our transatlantic cultural heritage—including religious ritual, film, music, dance, poetry and visits to former plantations.

The sale of the Amistad captives in Havana was a small transaction in the thriving international slave trade. But the resulting events arguably turned the tide against slavery itself—and the historical connections across the modern African Diaspora are direct and profound.

This visit is especially poignant because Amistad's own story began in Cuba. The original ship was built in Cuba. In 1839, the Amistad sailed from Havana, the center of the illegal slave trade. This will be the replica's first visit to Cuba—and it coincides with the tenth anniversary of its launch at Mystic Seaport Museum on March 25, 2000.

The Amistad is a 140-foot replica of the two-masted black schooner that was at the center of the 1841 slave rebellion case argued successfully by John Quincy Adams, leading to the first U.S. Supreme Court case freeing African captives. The replica Amistad has visited 70 domestic and international ports as a symbol of this human rights milestone.

In 2008, the Amistad undertook a 14,000-mile transatlantic sail to Africa. On March 25 of that year, the Amistad was linked via satellite directly to the UN as the General Assembly voted to commemorate that date as the bicentennial of the pioneering British act that first outlawed the slave trade. Students from six countries sailed legs of the Africa voyage. Soon thereafter, the Amistad was designated as floating ambassador for the UN Permanent Memorial to Honour the Victims of Slavery and the Atlantic Slave Trade. The boat's most recent port of call was Santo Domingo, for a week of programs for youths from the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

During the two months after the current Caribbean tour, the vessel will visit five cities historically linked to the 19th century slave trade: Savannah, Charleston, Norfolk, Washington DC and Baltimore. The next heritage tour will include visits this summer to Boston, Halifax and seven Great Lakes ports, culminating in Chicago. In December, the Amistad sails back to Africa, including for celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the independence of Senegal. But for now, all eyes are on Cuba.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF THE LAWRENCEVILLE SCHOOL

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bicentennial of one of America's premier private secondary schools, The Lawrenceville School of Lawrenceville, New Jersey. Founded in 1810 as the Maidenhead Academy and run under such names as the Lawrenceville Classical and Commercial High School for more than 70 years, the school was "refounded" in 1883 to become The Lawrenceville School as we know it today. And for 200 years this remarkable institution has provided its students with an education that challenges the mind and has instilled in them a strong commitment to community service.

The Lawrenceville School facilities are designated a National Historic Landmark. Designed by the esteemed American landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted who designed New York's Central Park and Cadwaladar Park in Trenton, the campus contains several houses where students live, based on their gender and year of graduation. Most of the faculty lives on the campus as well, some in the houses with the students, and others in residences with their families. This provides a community rich in teaching and learning. Classes are held around oval wooden tables rather than in the traditional rows of desks. Students are held to the highest academic standards, and each day students practice their team sports, study or work at fulfilling their social service requirements.

Many of the leading figures in almost every field come from the Lawrenceville School. Lawrenceville has a proud history of public service. Graduates include three New Jersey Governors, Charles Olden, Joel Parker and Rodman Price, who also served as a Member of Congress; Lowell P. Weicker, who served as both Senator and Governor of Connecticut; Charles Fried, who was appointed by President Reagan as Solicitor General of the United States; J. Harvie Wilkinson, III, who sits on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals; Ricardo Maduro, who was President of Honduras from 2002 to 2006; Brigadier General Horace Porter, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his service in the Union Army; and World War I Aviator, Jarvis Offutt for whom Offutt Air Force Base is named.

Under the inspired leadership of Elizabeth A. Duffy, the first woman to be selected as Head Master, The Lawrenceville School has been faithful to its traditions as it prepares its young men and young women for leadership and service in a changing world. I ask all my

colleagues to join me in congratulating this American treasure, The Lawrenceville School, which on October 8, 2010 will be celebrating its 200th birthday.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
DR. ROBERT MULLER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Dr. Robert Muller, a lifelong champion for peace who served humanity tirelessly throughout his life.

Born in Belgium in 1923, Dr. Muller was raised in the Alsace-Lorraine region of France where he experienced unrelenting political and cultural turmoil. During World War II he was a member of the French Resistance and was imprisoned by the Germans during the Nazi occupation. In 1948, he won an essay contest with his entry about how to govern the world. The prize was an internship at the newly created United Nations.

The internship set him on a life path that led to 38 years of work behind the scenes at the United Nations where he rose to the official position of Assistant-Secretary General, serving three Secretaries General.

In 1986, Rodrigo Carazo, the President of Costa Rica, proposed that Dr. Muller become the chancellor of the U.N. University of Peace in Costa Rica of which he was the co-founder.

His deeply spiritual understanding of our planet and the life that graces it led him to create a "World Core Curriculum" which is taught at 34 Robert Muller Schools around the world. The Curriculum earned him the UNESCO Peace Education Prize in 1989 and the honorary title of "father of global education." He also received the Albert Schweitzer International Prize for the Humanities and the Eleanor Roosevelt Man of Vision Award.

He was a prolific writer, having published fourteen books in various languages, including "2000 Ideas and Dreams for a Better World", in which he proposed concrete, visionary ideas designed to create a peaceful and harmonious planet.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Dr. Robert Muller, who will be deeply missed. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his entire family and to his many friends. Dr. Muller's life is one to celebrate, as he lived it with a generous heart, a true joy for living and unwavering love for his family, friends, colleagues and our beautiful planet.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE
LIFE OF DAVID DRUKER, M.D.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary physician and a distinguished constituent of California's 14th Congressional District, Dr. David Druker. After 35 years as a healer and leader in the medical community, Dr. Druker passed away